Global Digital Compact Alignment Summary

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AI-Generated Narrative

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) operates on the principle that fair trade is a fundamental requirement for consumer protection and a cornerstone of international mandatory law. This initiative is grounded in a tripartite framework of equality: the constitutional right to liberty, the civil right to life, and the commercial right to property. By treating these rights as interdependent, the project seeks to ensure that digital transformation is governed by the rule of law rather than arbitrary market conditions. Central to this approach is the concept of equitable distribution—illustrated by the principle that all participants in an economic system hold equal rights and obligations toward shared resources. To achieve this, the project emphasizes that factual equality must be preceded by legal equality, ensuring that digital benefits are distributed based on legal standing and merit rather than social status or physical attributes. In alignment with global standards, this framework aims to foster an open, fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory digital environment for all that enables micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to access and compete in the digital economy (SDG 9).

The application of these legal principles to the digital sphere ensures that the "natural procedure of equality" is upheld through transparent governance and enforceable protections. By focusing on the principle that "like should be treated as like," the initiative addresses the necessity of a digital economy where legal effectiveness shapes the facts of the marketplace. This approach recognizes that digital systems must be designed to respect the rights of all stakeholders, ensuring that the benefits of innovation are not concentrated but are accessible to all who fulfill their legal obligations. Such a rights-based structure is essential for the development of digital public goods, which include open-source software, open data, open artificial intelligence models, open standards and open content that adhere to privacy and other applicable international laws, standards and best practices and do no harm, empower societies and individuals to direct digital technologies to their development needs and can facilitate digital cooperation and investment. By anchoring digital transformation in the established legal doctrines of fair trade and commercial equality, this project provides a scalable model for inclusive economic growth.

Key Global Digital Compact priorities supported by this initiative:

*   Promotion of an open, fair, and non-discriminatory digital environment to support MSME competitiveness (SDG 9). *   Strengthening of digital public goods and open standards to facilitate global digital cooperation. *   Advancement of equitable and inclusive approaches to digital governance rooted in international law. *   Ensuring that digital transformation upholds the fundamental rights of liberty, life, and property. * Fostering interoperable digital standards that prioritize consumer protection and human rights.

Selected Global Digital Compact Alignments

Trust, Safety, & Integrity › Open, Secure, & Interoperable Internet Infrastructure

“Foster an open, fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory digital environment for all that enables micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to access and compete in the digital economy (SDG 9).” (GDC, p. 21a)

Commitment & Action

Digital Infrastructure & Governance › Responsible AI Infrastructure & Governance

“We commit to advance equitable and inclusive approaches to harnessing artificial intelligence benefits and mitigating risks in full respect of international law, including international human rights law, and taking into account other relevant frameworks such as the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.” (GDC, p. 52)

Commitment & Action

Digital Infrastructure & Governance › Responsible AI Infrastructure & Governance

“Support interoperability and compatibility of artificial intelligence governance approaches through sharing best practices and promoting common understanding (all SDGs).” (GDC, 55b)

Commitment & Action

Digital Infrastructure & Governance › Responsible AI Infrastructure & Governance

“We call on standards development organizations to collaborate to promote the development and adoption of interoperable artificial intelligence standards that uphold safety, reliability, sustainability and human rights (SDGs 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 16 and 17).” (GDC, p. 58)

Commitment & Action

Digital Infrastructure & Governance › Responsible AI Infrastructure & Governance

“We recognize that digital public goods, which include open-source software, open data, open artificial intelligence models, open standards and open content that adhere to privacy and other applicable international laws, standards and best practices and do no harm, empower societies and individuals to direct digital technologies to their development needs and can facilitate digital cooperation and investment.” (GDC, p. 14)

Ratified Global Principle